

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A license issuance server capable of performing a function of securely preventing illegalities concerning the granting of licenses to individual machines. In response to an encryption key generation request for software, software encryption key generating means generates a software encryption key and a software decryption key for decrypting the software encrypted by using the software encryption key. In response to a license issue request including device identification information fixedly recorded on a recording medium in a processing device which is a target of permission to run the software, license issuing means encrypts the software decryption key by using the device identification information and outputs a software license including the encrypted software decryption key. Thus, the encrypted software can be decrypted only in the processing device in which the device identification information is fixedly recorded.